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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

October 4, 1982

Dear Jim:

You know that I share your concern about the unemployment and the decrease in production in the textile/apparel industry caused by imports and further exacerbated by the recession. As I mentioned during our recent discussion concerning textile industry problems, I have made a commitment that was reaffirmed last December by Jim Baker, to seek to relate total import growth to the rate of growth in the domestic market.

This year this Administration has concluded negotiations with our three largest suppliers that limit the growth in quota levels to well below the rate of growth in the domestic market for six years. These agreements compare favorably with any previously negotiated agreements.

Although significant progress has been made this year, I have instructed all agencies and departments which have responsibilities related to the textile program to continue their efforts to work vigorously towards that goal. This applies not only for the important ongoing negotiations with the Peoples Republic of China, but also in future negotiations and implementation decisions as well.

To that end I want to assure you that the United States will continue efforts to negotiate a new bilateral agreement with the Peoples Republic of China independent from other considerations.

Sincerely,

Ronald Reagan

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The Honorable James T. Broyhill